Reply to Office action of February 3, 2009

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1. This sheet, which includes Fig. 1, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet 1

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Remarks/Arguments

In the Drawings

The Examiner has objected to Figure 1 for lacking brief descriptions of each functional block. Applicant has modified Figure 1 to remove elements that were not specifically referenced in the specification during discussion of the figure. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the basis for the objection has been eliminated and that the objection should be withdrawn.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 2 and 3, indicating that the phrase "said string" should be replaced with "said data string." The suggested modifications have been made to the claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the basis for the objections has been eliminated and that the objections should be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. §101

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

The claims have been amended to "positively recite the other statutory class (the thing or product) to which the application is tied," specifically, a "processing device." Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the basis for the rejection has been removed and that the rejection should be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 5, 9 and 10, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Imazeki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,535,164), hereinafter "Imazeki".

It is respectfully asserted that Imazeki fails to disclose:

"further performing consistency checking only for the located significant part of the data string,"

as described in currently amended claim 1.

Among the problems addressed by the present invention is the effect of errors in insignificant portions of a received data transmission on a reception verification algorithm that relies upon comparing multiple transmissions of the same data for checking consistency, such as the NOAA Weather Radio Specific Area Message Encoding ("NWR-SAME") system. To address this problem, the present application discloses a method of disregarding insignificant portions of each copy of a received transmission before performing a consistency check amongst the transmissions. Thus, inconsistencies in only insignificant portions of the repeated transmissions will not lead to a discarding of the transmission. If the significant portions of the repeated transmissions are identical, the transmission can be presumed valid. (Specification, page 2, line 7 through page 3, line 8)

Imazeki does not describe the use of consistency checking for only significant portions of a data string. Instead, Imazeki teaches "an each area automatic selection receiver of an emergency radio signal is an emergency broadcast receiver which enables current area code CAC to be updated automatically. This receiver is constituted in such a way that a GPS receiver obtains current position information by use of the satellite positioning system, then, a converter converts the current position information into an area code by use of a conversion table to write the area code into a code memory. For that reason, even though the receiver moves anywhere, contents of the code memory are always updated to an area code of an area of the movement destination automatically. Therefore, emergency broadcast of the area is always capable of being received correctly." (Imazeki Abstract)

Imazeki further explains that "receiver A in FIG. 2 selectively receives the each area emergency broadcast radio wave such as the radio wave SAME to output. The receiver A comprises a demodulator 1 for performing demodulation while receiving input radio wave, a decoder 2 for detecting digital data reception message RD included in demodulation output RS and the area code RAC showing signal distribution area of this area code, a area code comparator 4 for comparing this area code with an area code CAC (Current Area Code) in connection with desired reception area that is supplied to be written in a code memory 3, followed by judging agreement thereof in accordance with judgment condition determined beforehand, and an output driver 5 for outputting voice, indication, alarm sound and so forth corresponding to reception message (data) which are supplied from a decoder to exterior while receiving judgment output "enable" E of agreement of the area code comparator 4." (Imazeki, column 1, lines 42-59)

Imazeki is describing comparing a received area code with a current area code, not performing a consistency check on the received code. Thus, Imazeki fails to disclose: "further performing consistency checking only for the located significant part of the data string," as described in currently amended claim 1.

In view of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that there is no 35 USC 112 enabling disclosure provided by Imazeki which makes the present invention as claimed in claim 1 unpatentable. Since claims 2-10, are dependent from allowable independent claim 1, it is submitted that they too are allowable for at least the same reasons that independent claim 1 is allowable. Thus, it is further respectfully submitted that this rejection has been satisfied and should be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 2-4 and 6-8, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Imazeki in view of Gropper (U.S. Patent No. 6,323,767), hereinafter "Gropper".

Since claims 2-4 and 6-8 are dependent from independent claim 1, which should be allowable for the reasons described above, it is submitted that they too are allowable for at

least the same reasons that independent claim 1 is allowable. Thus, it is further respectfully

submitted that this rejection has been satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Furthermore, Gropper teaches a "method and apparatus of LEDS, non volatile

memory, an LCD, microcontrollers and a keypad to quickly determine the decoding status

of EAS and SAME messages; a method and apparatus for the user to define the translation

of these messages into custom text messages, abbreviations and different languages; and a

method and apparatus for interfacing the decoded messages to alphanumeric paging,

personal communication text messaging services, internet, email and remote LED

signboards boards by hardware, modem and pager." (Gropper Abstract) Gropper, like

Imazeki, fails to disclose: "further performing consistency checking only for the located

significant part of the data string," as described in currently amended claim 1.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections it is believed that, in view of the

preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance.

Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the

Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to

contact the applicant's representative at (609) 734-6804, so that a mutually convenient date

and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No fee is believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the additional fee to

Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

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